

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|---------------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| In re Application of: K. Gordon, Jr. |) | Group Art Unit: To be Assigned |
| Serial No.: To be Assigned |) | Examiner: To be Assigned |
| Filed: Herewith |) | Attorney Docket No.: STE-023.01 |
| For: <i>Systems and Methods for Welding</i> |) | (18903-2301) |
| <i>of Parts</i> |) | |

Mail Stop: Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97**

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicants and/or their Attorney in compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Pursuant to the July 11, 2003 Pre-Official Gazette Notice, only copies of the non-US patent references (References AD-AI) are being submitted. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form PTO-1449.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, Applicants have cited for the Examiner's consideration a co-pending U.S. patent application that is owned at least in part by the assignee of this application and that describes subject matter related to the present invention. The co-pending application is listed herewith in accordance with M.P.E.P. 609 III.D which states: "Applicants may wish to list U.S. patent application numbers on other than Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08A format to avoid the application numbers of pending applications being published on the patent. If a citation is not printed on the patent but has been considered by the Examiner in accordance with this section, the patented file will reflect that fact as noted in subsection III.C(2) above."

No copy of the co-pending application has been provided. If the Examiner wishes to have a copy of the co-pending application, the Examiner should contact the Attorney of record.

| Our Docket # | Serial # | Date Filed | Title |
|--------------|------------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| STE-022.01 | 10/389,454 | March 14, 2003 | Schemes for Ultrasonically Connecting Electrical Conductors |

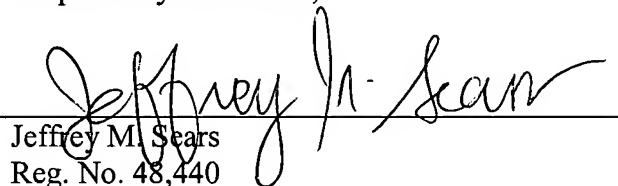
This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. Nor does it constitute an admission that the cited documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the listed documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the claimed subject matter over the listed documents, should one or more of the referenced documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: August 1, 2003

Customer No: 25181

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Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
STE-023.01 (18903-2301)

Application Number
To Be Assigned

Applicant
K. Gordon, Jr.

Filing Date
Herewith

Group Art Unit
To Be Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|----------|----------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | AA | 5,435,863 | 07/25/95 | Frantz | | |
| | AB | 5,658,408 | 08/19/97 | Frantz, et al. | | |
| | AC | 5,855,706 | 01/05/99 | Grewell | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|----------|---------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | AD | EP 0 567 426 A2 | 27/10/93 | Europe | | | |
| | AE | DE 4321874 | 12/01/95 | Germany | | | X |
| | AF | WO 98/49009 | 05/11/98 | PCT | | | |
| | AG | DE 19810509 A1 | 16/09/99 | Germany | | | X |
| | AH | DE 10110048 A1 | 05/06/02 | Germany | | | X |
| | AI | WO 02/098636 A1 | 12/12/02 | PCT | | | X |

OTHER DOCUMENTS
(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages Etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.